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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/774,998

01/31/2001

Jukka Jarvi

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7086

32294

7590

06/14/2006

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EXAMINER

KNOWLIN, THJUAN P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

DATE MAILED: 06/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Applicati n N .	Applicant(s)	
	09/774,998	JARVI, JUKKA	
	Examin r	Art Unit	
	Thjuan P. Knowlin	2614	

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover she t with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's RCE and amendment filed on March 23, 2006 has been entered. Claims 1 and 6 have been entered. No claims have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Claims 1-10 are still pending in this application, with claims 1 and 6 being independent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention lacks patentable utility.
3. For an invention to be "useful" it must satisfy the utility requirement, which means that the utility of the invention has to be specific, substantial, and credible. In regards to the tangible requirement, the claim must set forth a practical application to produce a "real-world" result. Furthermore, in reality, a claim may not seek patent protection for a mathematical formula in the abstract.
4. In regards to independent claims 1 and 6, the claims merely recite "defining one or more default functions sets...", and "reading the subscriber functions for each default subscriber...". The claims do not clearly point out what for or how the "function sets" are used. Claims 1 and 6 seem to merely recite a method that defines the records,

stores the records, and reads the records. However, the claims do not point out what exactly is done with the records. Therefore, no "real-world" results are produced from the application. Furthermore, claims 1 and 6 seem to be seeking patent protection for a mathematical formula in the abstract. However, one may not patent a process that comprises every "substantial practical application" of an abstract idea, because such a patent in practical effect would be a patent on the abstract idea itself. Therefore, the limitations recited in claims 1 and 6 are not specific, substantial, or credible.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker et al (US 5,483,585), in view of Sumner (US 6,784,786).
6. In regards to claims 1, 5, 6, and 10 Parker discloses the method for the management of subscriber functions (e.g. subscriber services), said method being used to manage subscriber functions in a telecommunication network (e.g., telecommunications system) (See Fig. 1), said subscriber functions being stored in records (See Fig. 2 and data/object store 31) (See col. 5 lines 10-26), the method comprising the steps of: defining one or more default function sets (e.g., basic telephone services), each function set comprising one or more subscriber functions of a

digital telephone exchange (See Fig. 1 and local exchange or switch 10) defined as default functions (See col. 5 lines 2-6); partitioning subscribers of said digital telephone exchange into default subscribers (e.g., subscribers with basic telephone service) and special subscribers (e.g., subscribers with supplementary service, such as call forwarding and three-party), said default subscribers being those subscribers whose subscriber functions correspond to one of said default function sets, and said special subscribers being those subscribers whose subscriber functions do not correspond to any of said default function sets (See Abstract and col. 5 lines 10-26); storing subscriber functions consistent with said default function sets in default records (See col. 6 lines 4-15 and col. 8 lines 4-21); storing subscriber functions for each special subscriber in subscriber-specific records, each subscriber-specific record being specific to the special subscriber concerned (See col. 6 lines 4-15 and col. 8 lines 22-30); reading the subscriber functions for each default subscriber of said plurality of default subscribers from the default record concerned; and reading the subscriber functions for each special subscriber from the subscriber-specific record for the subscriber concerned (See col. 6 lines 4-15). Parker, however, does not disclose each single default record being common to a plurality of default subscribers whose subscriber functions correspond to the subscriber functions in the default record concerned. Sumner, however, does disclose each single default record (See Fig. 4 and single default record 514) being common to a plurality of default subscribers (e.g., subscriber units 102) whose subscriber functions correspond to the subscriber functions in the default record concerned (See col. 6 lines 2-17 and col. 6 lines 28-32). Therefore, it would have been

obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ this feature within the system, as a way of allowing subscriber customized group functions to be delivered to each subscriber, thereby, eliminating the need for default records for each subscriber.

7. In regards to claims 2 and 7, Parker discloses the method, characterized in that data indicating whether the subscriber is a default subscriber or a special subscriber is provided in conjunction with the telephone number (e.g., telephone or directory number) of the subscriber (See col. 4 lines 1-23).

8. In regards to claim 3 and 8, Parker discloses the method, characterized in that when changes are made in the subscriber functions for a special subscriber, a check is performed to establish whether the changed functions correspond to any one of the default function sets; and if the changed functions correspond to one of the default function sets, then the special subscriber concerned is redefined as a default subscriber (See col. 5 lines 10-25 and col. 8 lines 31-37).

9. In regards to claims 4 and 9, Parker discloses the method and system, characterized in that the subscriber functions for a special subscriber are not stored in a subscriber specific record until one of said functions is activated for use (See col. 4-5 lines 53-6 and col. 8 lines 22-30).

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion


11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Simmonds et al (US 5,893,116) teach accessing network resources using network resource replicator and captured login script for use when the computer is disconnected from the network.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan P. Knowlin whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.

13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wing Chan can be reached on (571) 272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

14. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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